Bonebrake
Theological
Seminary

—

Report of the
Board of Directors
1909

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THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

REPORT *of the*
BOARD OF DIRECTORS *of*

The Bonebrake Theological Seminary

OF THE
CHURCH OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN
CHRIST FOR THE QUADRENNIUM
ENDING MARCH 31, 1909

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BONEBRAKE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY FOR THE QUADRENNIUM ENDING MAY 1909.

To the General Conference, Convening in Canton, Ohio, May 13, 1909:

It is a pleasure to report that the work of the Seminary has made progress during the past four years.

The total number of students enrolled is 234, against 181 last quadrennium; the number of graduates, 62 (31 being college men), against 54 last quadrennium (23 being college men); of the 62 graduates, 55 were men, 7 were women. In the regular course, 41; in the English course, 17; in the missionary course, 1; in the deaconess course, 3.

While the curriculum of studies has always been equal to, and even in advance of other seminaries of similar grade and equipment, it was found necessary to give increased attention to homiletics, history, sociology, pedagogy, and child psychology, and also to add a deaconess course to the other three courses offered.

To meet these enlarged demands satisfactorily, it was necessary to add a fifth member to the faculty in the person of W. G. Clippinger, a graduate of the class of 1903. He has done excellent service the past four years, proving the Board made a wise choice.

October 11, 1906, the Seminary was thirty-five years old, and the anniversary was celebrated on the evenings of the ninth and tenth. Representative men from different sections of the Church spoke on different features of the work of the Seminary. Sentiment was created and several hundred dollars voluntarily contributed toward a new dormitory building.

PROGRAM.

OCTOBER 9, 7:30 P.M.

"Come, Thou Almighty King".....Congregation

Reading of the Word of God.

Prayer.

Music ..... Quartet

"History of the Seminary," Rev. J. P. Landis, D.D., Ph.D., Secretary of Faculty.

Greetings from the present student body, Rev. M. O. McLaughlin, of Senior Class.

"The Seminary's Relation to the Young People of the Church," Rev. J. G. Huber, D.D., President Y. P. C. U.

Music ..... Quartet

"The Seminary's Relation to the Unevangelized," Rev. S. S. Hough, D.D., Secretary of Foreign Board.

"The Seminary and the Supply of Efficient Pastors," Bishop G. M. Mathews, D.D., Chicago, Ill.

Music ..... Quartet

Benediction.

OCTOBER 10, 7:30 P.M.

Music ..... Congregation

Responsive reading of the Word of God.

Prayer.

Music ..... Quartet

"Immediate Material Demands," Rev. C. M. Brooke, D.D., Business Manager.

"The College and the Seminary," Rev. C. J. Kephart, D.D., Toledo, Iowa, President Leander Clark College.

Music ..... Quartet

"The Seminary as a Unifying and Impelling Spiritual Force," Rev. G. D. Gossard, class 1896, Baltimore, Md.

"The Responsibility of the Church to the Seminary of the Future," Rev. H. H. Fout, D.D., Editor Sunday-school literature.

Music ..... Congregation

Benediction.

At a called session of the Board, March 20, 1909, the name was changed from Union Biblical Seminary to The Bonebrake Theological Seminary, in recognition of a gift by John M. Bonebrake and his wife, Mrs. Mary E. Bonebrake, 384 acres of land in Thomas County, Kansas, appraised at $83,000. The inception as well as the completion of this valuable gift is due to the Manager of the Seminary, Dr. C. M. Brooke. Without drawing upon the general treasury, the Library was catalogued, rendering it more serviceable. It is now much used by the students. Early provision ought to be made for the addition of a large number of new books which are much needed.

Closing of the Seminary year with a devotional Bible conference, inaugurated by our institution, is being imitated by other seminaries.

Those held under such leaders as G. Campbell Morgan, F. B. Meyer, J. Campbell White were great occasions for reunions of the Alumni and friends, were a spiritual uplift to the students, to hundreds of pastors of other churches as well as of our Church, and served to make the Seminary known in a most favorable way. Only two of such conferences were held the past four years.

The financial facts by the Business Manager:

Endowment Fund	170,000
Increase in endowment in land during the quadrennium	83,000
Increase other than land	5,000
New Building Fund, cash and notes	7,000
Liabilities	1,900
Total net assets	$245,000

While there has been some advancement, the Seminary is not meeting the increasing demands for trained workers in opening fields at home and abroad so that relatively the Seminary is far behind what it should be in numbers and equipment; and as in the past twelve years there has not been a general canvass of the Church in this interest.

1. We recommend the Commencement Bible Conferences of the past be restored, that the management of the same be committed to the Seminary Faculty, and that the Board of Directors lend such encouragement and take such steps at each Board meeting as shall make it possible to secure the highest grade of men in the land.

2. We recommend that steps be taken to erect on the grounds owned by the Seminary additional buildings; one a dormitory building with all the modern, approved appointments; the other a library building. The old building which for thirty-one years has served all purposes is no longer adequate, but can be changed into an administration building. These additions are imperative if the Church is to afford adequate accommodation for students and keep pace with the enlarging equipments of the colleges and other seminaries.

3. Inasmuch as an Educational Secretary is needed to stimulate, unify, and to build up wisely and solidly a definite educational department of the Church, to inspire increased attention to the work of the ministry, to seek out, encourage, and care for young men entering the ministry with a view to their largest efficiency, to increase beneficiary aid funds, etc., we recommend that a Secretary of Education be elected, care being taken to secure the right man for this wide field.

4. We recommend that a strenuous effort be made the next four years to solicit the entire Church both for students and for money, and we call attention to the small number of college men entering the Seminary.

Of the 234 enrolled students the past four years, forty-five had graduated from a college. Of the thirty-seven entering as Juniors last fall, only six enrolled as graduates of a college, seventeen as having attended college or high school a short time, and fourteen as not having attended any beyond the graded school.

The number of those unprepared, or only partially prepared, is out of proportion to those prepared to warrant the most desirable results in classes, and to meet the expectations and demands of Seminary graduates on the part of the Church.

5. That the assessment for the Seminary be increased to $10,000 per year for the next quadrennium and the same be apportioned to the conferences and collected in full.

6. In view of the lack of facilities for carrying on the work of the Seminary and the imperative demand for additional buildings, we offer it as our candid and deliberate judgment that unless the General Conference makes such progress possible that the Seminary will be unable to best serve the Church and give to it adequate returns for the money expended in its maintenance.

G. A. Funkhouser,
H. A. Thompson,
P. M. Camp.
Committee.

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